

MIDDLE EAST

Oct 26, 1967

An air of <sup>Further</sup> tension ~~is~~ fast building ~~to~~ tonight in the Middle East; <sup>many of the vessels</sup> With ~~the~~ ~~entry~~ of Russia's fifteen-ship Mediterranean fleet ~~is~~ expected to arrive momentarily in Egyptian waters. ~~Raising again the specter of total war in that troubled part of the globe~~

Meanwhile, in New York - United Nations Secretary General U Thant mapped plans today - for bolstering U N truce observation forces in the area. Hoping to provide the peacekeepers <sup>for</sup> the first time - with helicopters and patrol boats; also hoping to double the number of U N observation posts - along the <sup>beleaguered</sup> ~~strait~~ Suez Canal; <sup>this</sup> in a desperate effort to keep the "lid on" -- <sup>more or less</sup> pending a <sup>permanent</sup> solution.

VIETNAM

At the other end of Asia that  
Air war in Vietnam is getting hotter by the minute.

Today's action including a ~~series~~ U.S. air strike ~~is~~ against  
a number of enemy targets in and around Hanoi. American  
Navy ~~is~~ pilots braving missiles and flak ~~is~~ from an  
estimated two thousand anti-aircraft installations ringing the  
city. Completing their mission as planned - and also ~~down~~  
downing another Mig - <sup>one of</sup> seventeen that tried to stop them.

The new "kill" raising to at least twenty-two -  
and possibly twenty-three -- the total number of Communist  
Migs <sup>is</sup> destroyed on the ground or shot out of the air <sup>is</sup> during  
the past three days. This the ~~product~~ <sup>result</sup> of an all-out air  
effort <sup>that drew</sup> ~~drawing~~ special praise today from American  
Commander General ~~William~~ Westmoreland.

The recent raids have "inflicted great damage  
on the North Vietnamese air force" - said the General.  
Adding that our own losses - "were very small - much  
smaller than anticipated." ~~Good news, indeed.~~

## ATLANTIC CITY

From a meeting of oral surgeons at Atlantic City, New Jersey ~~4~~ comes news today of an amazing new medical technique. Designed to cope with the agony of disfiguring facial wounds -- such as occur in every war and especially now in Vietnam.

Brigadier General Robert Shira -- telling of the new process, which calls for liquid rubber -- or silicone -- to be poured directly into the gaping wound -- and there allowed to harden. Replacing the old surgical practice -- or suturing ~~the wound~~ and covering it with a bandage.

The rubber then allowed to remain in place for several months -- until the patient is ready for plastic surgery. General Shira adding that results have proved superior -- in any number of tests; with the technique soon to become standard operating procedure -- once cleared through the Pentagon.

## CAPE KENNEDY

At Cape Kennedy - completion today of the final major pre-launch test - for America's first Saturn-Five moon rocket. With results -- A-okay all the way. Space officials promptly ~~clear~~ clearing the moon rocket for its long-awaited maiden flight - on November seven, week after next.

This an unmanned debut -- with the world's mightiest rocket scheduled to drive some eleven thousand miles into space; ~~before~~ before returning to the Earth's atmosphere at a re-entry speed of about twenty-five thousand miles an hour. It will thus try to ~~dupli~~ duplicate the planned first and last steps - of future manned flight to the moon; a perfect flight -- if it comes off - meaning we will still have a chance to get to the Moon by Nineteen-Seventy - as originally planned.

## TEHRAN

The scene today in Tehran -- reminiscent of a Hollywood blockbuster; or better still -- ~~take from the~~ <sup>— something out of the</sup> Arabian Nights. With a golden coach drawn by eight white horses -- carrying the resplendent Shah of Iran to his long-awaited Coronation; in the rose-carpeted Hall of Mirrors -- at Iran's glittering Golestan Palace. <sup>And there is no more glittering palace in the world than the Golestan,</sup> On this his forty-eighth birthday -- twenty-six years after he first ascended the fabled Peacock Throne -- Mohammed Reza Pahlevi finally accepting the Pahlevi crown -- with its nearly four thousand jewels. Also donning -- an historic pearl-embroidered Coronation cape. Thereby proclaiming himself at last -- Shah of Shahs -- Light of the Aryans.

The Shah next crowning his wife as Empress Farah -- the first woman ever so honored in Iran's twenty-five hundred year history. Lastly, and proudest moment of all, the Shah presenting to his people -- his son and heir, six-year-old Crown Prince Reza.

*The brief but impressive ceremony -- relayed by television throughout the country. Prompting calls to prayer -- from every Minaret across the land. The cry soon ringing from millions of lips: "Javid Shah-- Javid Shah." "Long Live the King -- Long Live the King."*

*As you no doubt know -- the Shah himself chiefly responsible for delaying his Coronation so long. Refusing to be crowned on the grounds -- said he -- "There is no pride in being the King of Beggars."*

*For the Shah then -- today's ceremony marking the culmination of a lifelong dream. The end result -- of a truly amazing one-man revolution, that has transformed Iran from a backward country -- into one of the richest, fastest-developing, most stable countries in the present-day Middle East.*

*Javid Shah -- Long Live the King.*

LONDON FOLLOW TEHRAN

All of which serves as a perfect lead-in -- to this next from London. The story of a feud in the groves of Academe -- over the famous "Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam."

Best-known translation from the original Arabic -- that of Victorian poet Edward Fitzgerald. Who can forget -- those immortal lines:

"A book of verses underneath the bough,

"A jug of wine, a loaf of bread -- and thou

"Beside me singing in the wilderness.

"Ah, wilderness were paradise <sup>now</sup> now."

— o —  
Ah, but was it really Omar Khayyam? No -- says

British poet Robert Graves. Offering in its place -- a new translation of the "Rubaiyat" in free verse; where -- among other changes -- the famed "jug of wine" speech comes out:

"A gourd of red wine and a sheaf of poems --

"A bare subsistence, half a loaf, not more--

"Supplied us two alone on the free desert:

"What Sultan could we envy on his throne."

Which is best? Which is right? It's not for me to say. But I can't help recalling a recent comment by William Saroyan -- on the subject of literary translations.

Said he: "Any accomplished linguist -- can translate a book; but the only way to translate a poem -- is to write a new "poem." Now Omar -- I mean Warren



## LUCCA

American film star William Holden - on trial for

manslaughter today in ~~Lucca~~ Italy; in the highway death

— a road accident

of an Italian salesman - a year ago last July.

The verdict - guilty as charged. Holden given

that was then

an eight-month jail sentence - suspended. Also barred from

driving in Italy - for eight months. Further agreeing to

pay the salesman's widow some fifty million lire - or

about eighty thousand American dollars. In Italy  
where they drive like mad and have  
more highway accidents than anywhere.